



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



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Commissioner of Public Safety

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Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11/09/04

**STATE & NEWTOWN POLICE
TEST EMERGENCY PRISON RESPONSE
IN NEWTOWN**

During this week, on a date that will not be announced The Connecticut State Police and the Newtown Police Department will test their emergency response to a mock prison emergency at the Garner correctional facility in Newtown.

The date and the type of incident have been kept completely confidential to add to the realism of the response. The project is specifically designed to test the readiness of Police and their emergency response with manpower and equipment required for the event.

The public is being made aware of this drill, as they will see a large State and Local Police response. The response to this drill will include 50-60 Police personnel as well as aircraft, K-9 Teams, and Tactical teams. Newtown Police, State Police and Dept of Corrections will all be a part of this drill.

This announcement is being made to inform the public of this "DRILL" and not cause public alarm.

These types of exercises are not uncommon and are required to keep State Police and Local Police in the ready in case of a real emergency at this correctional facility. There will be drill activity both inside and outside of the facility.

There will be some limitations placed on access by the media to the drill. State Police PIO, Dept of Corrections and Newtown Police will provide constant briefings and allow some visual activities to be photographed.

Garner Corrections, which opened in Newtown in 1992, is a level 4 facility that houses over 600 inmates. No inmates will participate in this operation.

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